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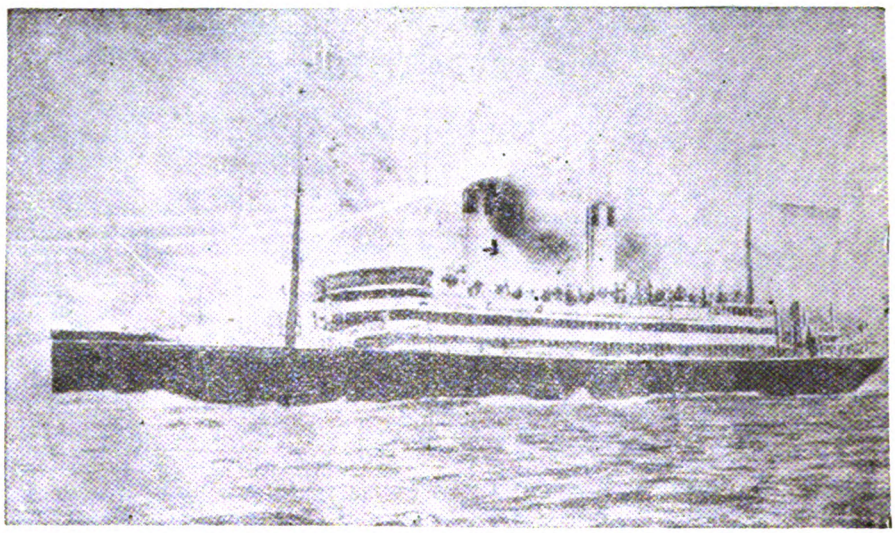
OF
THINGS JAPANESE

THE JAPAN MAGAZINE CO.
TOKYO, JAPAN

TOYO KISEN KAISHA

(ORIENTAL STEAMSHIP CO.)



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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

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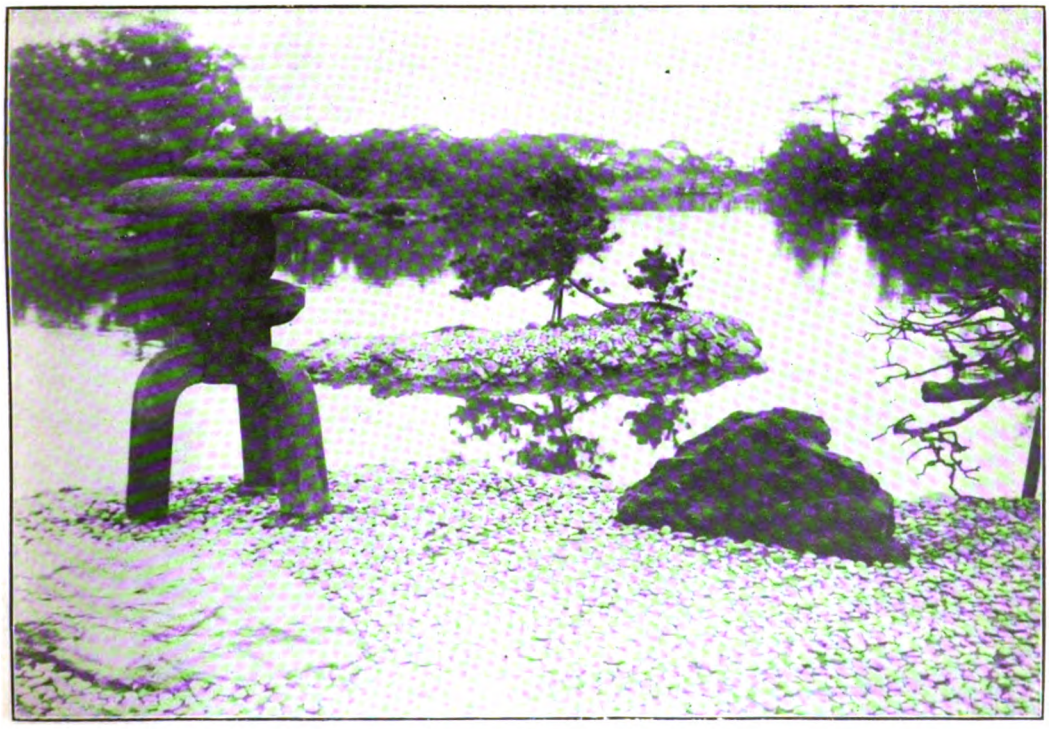
A Winter View of the Heian Shrine, Kyoto



A View of the Imperial Palace Garden, Shiba, Tokyo

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Kite-Flying, a New Year's Play of Boys

Playing Battledore and Suttlecock, One of the New Year's Plays of Girls

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The New Year's Parade of the Fire Brigades in Front of the Imperial Palace

A Meeting in Commemoration of Meiji Civilization at the Okuma Hall

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Ceremony of Writing for the First Time in the Year By Middle and Upper Class Ladies

Middle Class Ladies at a Bazaar

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THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

VOL. XVI JANUARY, 1925 No. V

The Month In Progress

THE EDITOR'S DIARY

DEC. 16.—The engagement of Miss Kikuko Sakai, the younger sister of Count T. Sakai, with Lieutenant-Colonel Marquis Mayeda has been announced. She is a tennis enthusiast and is noted for her beauty.

The first sanatorium on a plateau in Japan is projected at Ochiai-mura, Suwagori, Shinshu, where Mr. S. Yonezawa and other chief residents are taking interest in it as a semi-public enterprise under the direction of Professor Uyematsu of the Tokyo Medical College. The sanatorium will be put up by June, 1926, with a capital of 1,000,000 yen. It is being planned after the model of similar establishments in Italy and Switzerland.

The Japan Aerial Navigation Co. plans starting a regular daily aerial passenger and mail service between Osaka and Fukuoka from April 1, 1925, and has applied for permission to the Government. At first, 4 hydroplanes will be used, and 6 will be added by the end of August.

Dec. 17.—It is understood that the Government has at last decided to promote the Japanese Legation at Peking to an Embassy in April. Mr. Yoshizawa, the present Minister, will probably be the first Ambassador.

The highest priced land in Tokyo is in a section lying in the neighbourhood of the first Mutual Building, Kyobashi, Tokyo, where it is estimated at 1,500-700 yen per *tsubo*. The lowest priced land in the capital is at Senda-machi, Honjo, where it is 62 yen per *tsubo*.

Dec. 19.—Mr. T. Matsudaira, the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, has been appointed Japanese Ambassador at Washington, and on the 18th, the installation ceremony took place at the Akasaka Palace.

The Choshi Meteorological Station reports the total number of earthquakes this year as 1,067.

Dec. 20.—500 articles will be sent from Japan to the International Decorative Art Exhibition to be held at Paris in April next.

Dec. 21.—One labour deputy and two advisors will be appointed to represent Japan at the 7th International Conference from among candidates recommended by the six large Chambers of Commerce, by February 15.

At an extradinary Cabinet conference held on the 20th, it was decided to keep up the existence of the Port Arthur Engineering College.

Dr. S. Kobayashi of the Korean Gov-

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ernment Hospital, a student of flies, has announced his discovery that the fly absolutely cannot grow in extrement and dirt more than 3½ inches from the surface.

Dec. 23.—A big society to promote Japanese and Russian friendship is reported as privately in course of formation to comprise about 8,000 noted politicians, business men and others. A memorandum was exchanged between the projectors and the Soviet Government as to friendly relations between the two countries. As a first step to cultivate friendship between the two countries, the society will hold an exhibition of Japanese pictures at Moscow in September next. The society has as its principal purposes the encouragement of colonization, business enterprises and trade. It has also the plan to erect a Japanese-Russian Hall.

A Sieames Prince and his Consort in Japanese Dress

Mr. C. Takeuchi, proprietor of leper hospitals, is said to have discovered a medicine, which is a herb essence. He speaks of its great efficacy, as he has injected it into 1,000 patients with successful results.

Dec. 24.—The population of Japan on October 1, 1924 is estimated by the Statistic Bureau of the Cabinet at 59,138,900, including 29,622,200 males and 29,516,700 females.

England will hold an international conference in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the opening of railways in the world, in London in June next, and has recently requested Japan to send a number of railwaymen as deputies. In compliance with the request, the Railway Department is selecting 5 men from among the high and *hannin* class officials and 5 others from among the conductors, drivers, ticket men and porters.

The 50th session of the Imperial Diet was convoked to-day.

Dec. 25.—The Government has a plan under consideration to form a food stuff investigation committee as a means to solve the burning question of food by finding a fundamental policy. The committee will be formed of producers, consumers and importers.

On October 1st, the population of Osaka Prefecture stood at 2,996,500, according to a census taken by the Statistics Bureau. Of this number, 1,561,600 were males and 1,434,900 females. Osaka city had a population of 1,431,500, of which 773,300 were males and 658,200 females.

Dec. 26.—The opening ceremony of the Imperial Diet was held in the House of Peers at 11 A.M. to-day in the presence of the Prince Regent.

Dec. 28.—At 1.30 P.M. on the 27th,

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powder exploded, while it was being carried from the Otaru waterfront to Temiya Station, with the result that a few small boats were sunk, nearly all godowns at the station collapsed, 120 persons were killed and 300 persons were wounded. Fires occurred in several places on the waterfront

The well-known library of the late Lafcadio Hearn will be opened to the public next year. Some years ago, it passed into the possession of the Toyama High School, which has decided to erect a building for it early next year.

Dr. Nitobe Back from a Foreign Tour

Jan. 2.—The *Tokyo Asahi* announces its plan to carry out a grand flight to Europe this spring, with the support of the Aviation Bureau and the Military and Naval Aviation Offices.

Tomioka Tessai, a leading artist of the *nanga* school in Kyoto, died on December 31 at the age of 89.

Jan. 3.—T.I.M. the Emperor and Empress will celebrate their silver wedding this year.

Jan. 5.—The engagement has been announced of H.I.H. Prince Kuni Jr. and Princess Tomoko, the third daughter of H.I.H. Prince Fushimi, Sr.

On October 1, 1925, a national census will be taken, for which 250,000 yen has been earmarked in this fiscal year's Budget.

Jan. 7.—The New Year's parade of the fire brigades was held to-day in front of the Imperial Palace.

Jan. 8.—Mr. Tamotsu Murata, who rendered valuable services to the fisheries of Japan, died on the 7th at the age of 84.

The New Year's military parade was held to-day in the presence of the Prince Regent, who reviewed the troops.

Jan. 9.—Prince George, the fourth son of the King of England, is coming to Japan in the spring on board the *Hawkins*, the flagship of the British Oriental fleet. He will meet the Prince Regent, with whom he became acquainted when the latter visited England.

Jan. 10.—Rev. M. Uyemura, of the Fujimi-cho Church, Tokyo, an elder of the Japanese Christian world, died of apoplexy on the 8th. He was 69 years of age.

Jan. 11.—It snowed in Tokyo to-day. The snow fell to the depth of 1.3 *sun* the first deep snow of the year.

Jan. 12.—Abbot Otani Koyen of the East Hongwan Temple intends travelling in Europe and America, accompanied by his third daughter Tadako. In an interview with a press representative, he signified his wish to meet men in the

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political and economic centres in America and to try to moderate the anti-Japanese sentiment there.

Jan. 13.—It is proposed in Tokyo to hold a great exhibition in May next in commemoration of the silver wedding of T.I.M. the Emperor and Empress and of the resuscitation of the capital, under the auspices of the Government and the Municipal authorities.

Dr. Sun Yat-Sen and his Wife

Jan. 14.—St. Luke's Hospital, Tsukiji, Tokyo, took fire at 2.05 P.M. on the 13th. Fanned by a strong northerly wind, the flames threatened to spread to all the buildings, but they were fortunately put out in thirty minutes, after destroying the main building entirely and other buildings in part, thanks to the efforts of the fire brigades, helped by soldiers, students and others.

Jan. 15.—Mr. K. Yamamoto of Osaka and Mr. K. Akita of Kyoto made an ascent of Monnt Fuji on the 4th and came back to Osaka on the 6th. It is stated by Mr. Yamamoto that at the summit, the temperature was 120 below zero.

The first communistic industrial village in Japan is making its appearance in Haneda-mura in the suburbs of Tokyo, where 22 medical instrument and other special glassware manufacturers, whose works were destroyed by the conflagration after the earthquake, intend building their factories there, which will be operated for the joint account of the villagers. The Government is interested in the attempt and has decided to loan 500,000 yen for capital out of the commercial and industrial resuscitation fund.

"FORGETTING GRASS"

The voice was heard of a pedlar outside the gate, crying "Forgetting grass, forgetting grass. I rushed out and called to Bitti, imagining it must be a curious plant but, in reality, it was found to be quite a commonplace grass with no flowers.

Why, it is of no interest. Is it a comedy for any diseases, though?" It Biked.

Pedlar: "Yes, sir, they say it is a remedy for the mind. Always look at it, and you will forget worries; in the dog-days you will forget the heat; in the coldest period of winter you will forget the cold; and at the end of the year you will forget you are getting one year older very soon."

I: "That's very wonderful. Let me have one. And what is the price!"

Pedlar (after thinking for a little while): "Let me see—I have foregotten the price."

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Premier's and Foreign Minister's Speeches at the 50th Session of the Diet

Prime Minister's Speech

Gentlemen,

On this occasion of the opening of the present Session of the Diet, I feel it a great honour to address you again on the general views of my Government.

During the six years which have elapsed since the termination of the World War, we have consistently endeavoured to promote pacific international co-peration, working in concert with the Powers, and with the aid of these efforts the world's civilization has undergone further development. I am happy to say that during this time our friendship with foreign countries has steadily increased in cordiality.

In early September last year, disturbances unfortunately broke out again in the neighbouring country of China. The fighting in Central China led to hostilities between Mukden and Chihli, and for a time all classes of our people were filled with deep anxiety. Guided by the principle of safeguarding our rights and intersts and acting in harmonious co-operation with the Powers, my Governmen have strictly observed an attitude of non-interference in China's domestic trouble. Fortunately, the civil strife did not affect our rights and interests in Manchuria and Mongolia, while our co-operation with the Powers has been all the more strengthened. In spite of China's unhappiness we can take comfort in the fact that our obligations of good faith towards all the people of China have been completely fulfilled, and that the bond of friendship between the two countries has thus been made still closer. The new provisional Goverment of Marshal Tuan are apparently trying in sincerity to stabilize the political situation, to promote administrative unity and to carry out various other reforms. The Japanese Government are watching, with sympathy and hope, for the speedy fruition of the efforts of the Chinese Government.

I am very happy to be able to inform the House that the negotiations between Russia and Japan, which had long continued at Peking, were brought to a successful issue the day before yestedrday. steps being already taken for signature, As you may be aware, Russia has long been isolated from the civilized world, our relations with that country being also suspended. It is a matter for sincere congratulation that a basic agreement and other arrangements for the re-establishment of diplomatic relations have now been concluded, our honour and interest being upheld and many questions pending between the two countries settled, and that the two nations should now be able to revert to a once long-continued friendship and to enjoy together the blessings of civilization.

With regard to our nationai defence, I need hardly say that, taking into consideration the geographical position and special conditions of this country, we must maintain our defensive armaments to an extent compatible with national security and with the fulfilment of our national obligations. The Armies of the

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Powers, with their experiences in the World War, have completely changed in the strength and efficiency of their arms, whereas our Army can scarcely follow in their wake. Consequently, in deference to popular opinion in this country, the Government have tried to prevent a diminution in the strength of our national defence by projecting, on the one hand, a decrease in the number of the existing Divisions and, on the other hand, replenishment of new arms.

It is to be noted that in recent years our State finances have increased greatly in volume, and our financial position has increased in difficulty, and at the opening of the last Session of the Diet, I took occasion to remark on the necessity of carrying out our administrative adjustment and financial retrenchment. When that Session was closed, the Government immediately set about making investigations with those objects in view, and after careful deliberation they have decided upon an alteration of the organization of the various administrative departments, curtailment of expenditure and postponement of undertakings. In this way, the state expenditure has been reduced by over Y.256,000,000 both on General and Special Accounts in regard to plans which had been previously decided upon. Financial programmes for the fiscal year of 1925 are framed on this basis of curtailed expenditure.

As to the policy to be followed in regard to loans, we shall avoid placing loans on the open market in 1925. as we did in 1924, for fear that a large flotation of loans might adversely affect the general economic life and interfere with its adjustment and development. We feel that by these arrangements our financial position has been greatly strengthened, and that pressure of State finance on ordinary economic life has much relieved. Further, along with the financial adjustments of the Central Government, we gave instructions to local authorities to take similar measures. The Budgets for, 1925 of the local self-governing bodies, except in places suffering from the effects of the earthquake disaster, show an appreciable decrease, approximating ten millions, in comparison with the figures for 1924.

These meaures of adjustment and retrenchment mark an initial stage in the scheme of re-arranging the general adminisstrative system and of economizing expenditure, and further steps, of course, be taken at every opportunity in the future to simplify administration and to increase the efficiency of officials. We have appointed a Commisson within the Government with the object of arriving at denfinite plans to that end as soon as possible.

While the first part of the scheme for administrative and financial adjustments had thus been carriet out, it is to be observed that the incidence on the people of the burden of State expenses does not seem to be perfectly equal in some cases. Immediately on the termination of the present Session of the Diet, the Government will undertake careful nivestigations relating to a re-adjustment of the taxation system with a view to introducing in the next ordinary Session a Bill embodying the results of such investigations.

As to the question of increasing the share of the State Treasury in the expenses of compulsory education, we shall endeavour in the fiscal year of 1926, with due regard to the financial position of the State, to make an increase, in view of the great contribution which it will make towards the develpment of education and of the effect which it will have in lightening the financial burdens of self-governing bodies.

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It may be recalled that since the late Emperor Meiji laid down the policy of the Restoration all institutions of this country have made steady and notable progress. In 1872 an educational system was proclaimed, and in the following year the people assumed military duties under a conscription law, while the year 1889 saw the establishment of the Constitution, I believe that the august object of the late Emperor in establishing the Constitution was to enable the people widely to participate in the conduct of State affairs and in the shaping of the destinies of the nation. It is fifty years since the establishment of systems for education, military service and self-government, while thirty-six years have elapsed since the proclamation of the Constitution. It may be said, therefore, that the intelligence and capacity of the people have stood the test of time. I believe that time is now ripe for the adoption of universal suffrage so as to enable all the people to assume the responsibility for the development of our national fortunes. Moreover, elections of late years have given rise to various evils, causing mach concern for the future of our constitutional government. In order further to strengthen its foundation, steps should be taken to eliminate those evils and to ensure the fairness of elections. For these purposes, we shall lay before you at this Sessaion a Bill revising the whole of the Electoral Law for the members of the House of Representatives. The improvement of the position of the House of Lords has from time to time come up for consideration in this House since 1910, and at a time especially, when a revision of the Electoral Law for the Lower House is so urgently needed, the opportunity with regard to the Upper House ought not to be lost. The constitution of the House of Lords, ever since first laid down, has remained without any important change except for increases in membership introduced on several occasions, and there has arisen, therefore some dissatisfaction due to its failure to conform to the change of the times. Of course, the purpose for which our Constitution adopted a bicameral system should be fully respected, but at the same time it is necessary for the very purpose of perfecting constitutional government that the requisite modifications should be made in the light of, and in conformity with, the progress of the times. Taking these facts into consideration, the Government are proceeding with investigations. As soon as definite plans are arriyed at, the necessary procedure will be taken for submitting them to your consideration.

I have today confined myself to a brief consideration of matters which are regarded as of pressing importance. As to other affairs under consideration by the Goverment, they will be laid before you on appropriate occasions. With regard to diplomatic and financial questions, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Finance Minister will have the honour of addressing you on their respective subjects.

In conclusion, I hope that you will give your approval to the various Bills in appreciation of the purposes of the Goverment.

Foreign Minister's Speech

Gentlemen,

I had occasion to address you, at this House in July of last year, on the fundamental principles of the foreign policy which the Government proposed to follow and on the general outlines of our external relations existing at that time. Since then the relations of the Powers have witnessed many important events. In taking a general survey of these developments, we are struck by the fact that there is a worldwide tendency to denounce narrow and exclusive selfishness, to oppose wanton resort to arms, to condemn aggression and to seek adjustment of all international questions with the understanding and coroperation of the countries concerned. This tendency was clearly demonstrated, for example, at the London Conference on German reparations and at the Fifth Session of the Assembly of the League of Nations relating to the pacific settlement of international disputes.

As a corollary of such trend of the world, international conferences in an

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increasing number have taken place of last years. Within one single year that has just elapsed, we took part in no less than forty conferences of various kinds. It is true that the questions there discussed include those in which we ourselves are not essentially or directry intersted. But we can no longer confine ourselves to an isolated, closed-door and solitary existence in one corner of the Far East. We are now an active Member of the League of Nations, charged with a large measure of responsibility for the peace of the whole world and for the happiness of all mankind. We are bound to be represented in the discussion of all problems which have bearing upon these great aims, however slightly or however remotely our own national interests may be involved in such problems. It remains no more for us to pause and to reconsider whether we should properly assume so heavy a responsibility. We must accept the situation forced upon us by the ineluctable demand of the times and the mighty progress of the world.

Admittedly, the nations of the world have not, so far, fully recovered from the paroxysm of the late War. Their financial and economic conditions still remain abnormal. Nor has complete stability yet been restored in international relations. The realization of the highest ideals of humanity would seem still far off. It however admits of no doubt that the age of international antagonism is passing, and that in its place an era of international co-operation is dawning. This new order of thought is styled, in some quarters, as Internationalism, and is denounced on the grounds that it is incompatible with Nationalism and repugnant to national interests. If nationalism, so-called, implied the selfishness of a nation,—if it assumed that all other nations should minister to the convenience of that particular nation,—it is obvious that such a doctrine is irreconcilable with the present drift of world affairs. If by "national interests" were ment those of an immediate and transient nature or any special advantages enjoyed by a small section of the nation, it is equally obvious that they can find little support in the awakening consciousness of mankind. But the earth is not made to suit the will of a single Power. No nation, however powerfull in strength, however rich in resourees, can have its own way in the council of nations. History shows that all attempts made by any Power, in reliance upon its strength and resources, to force its will upon the rest of the world are doomed to grievous failure. The true and lasting interests of a nation can be secured only when they are in keeping with the rightful positions of other nations on a fair and equitable basis. Upon this aith we stand and propose to regulate our relations with all foreign countries.

As ta our policy towards China, I ventured to lay before you its general outlines in the last Session of the Diet. I made it clear that we were resolved to respect the position which China justly enjoys, and at the same time to safeguard the position which is rightfully assured to us. I also declared that we had no intention whatever of interfering in any domestic affairs of China.

In September of last year hostilities unfortunately broke out between Kiangsu and Chekiang, leading to a still more serious werfare between Mukden and Chihli. For a time, grave disturbances prevailed in China. In the presenco of this situation, we have consistently conformed ourselves to the policy already enunciated.

In the first place, we have constantly kept in view the safeguarding of our rightful position, and, in particular, of our rights and interests in Manchuria and Mongolia. In order to provide against any possibility of these rights and interests being ignored and unprotected as a result of the recent fighting around Shanhaikwan, wo addressed an identic communication to the two warring partics on the thirteenth of last October, frankly calling their attention to our position in regard to the situation. The wholo matter was published in the Press at that time and is no dobt well known to you.

I need hardly say that our concern is

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not confined to the dondition of affairs in Manchuria and Monoglia alone. We are interested in the whole of China to an extent and in a degree absolutely essential to our national existence. But more particulary keen are our national sentiments over Manchuria and Mongolia, because of historic reasons in addition to thoso general considerations. I refer to the fact that Japan, in self-defence and in the interest of peace in the Far East, staked the country's fortunes on two great wars in the Manchurian plains. By such supreme efforts, we are now enabled actively to engage in peaceful undertakings in that region. I desire to repeat here once more what has been so often declared by the Japanese Government, that we have no aggressive or territorial designs of any kind in that or any other part of China.

Secondly, we have followed with the strictest exactitude the principle of non-interference in China's internal politics. We have absolutely refrained from supplying any party in China with arms, munitions or loans that might be utilized for the purpose of continuing hostilities. Knowing that the Chinese people were sick of war, we believed that the refusal of assistance to any particular party in China was, in effect, assistance rendered to the whole nation of China. Another point to which we attached particular importance was our belief in international good faith. The Japanese Gevernment aldeady subseribed some years ago to the resolution of the Powers prohibiting supply arms and ammunition to China. We further declared on more than one occasion our policy of non-interference in the domestic troubles of that country. We have now translated these commitments faithfully into fact.

What has been the result of this attitude? I am happy to believe that the sense of justice and fairnesse with which we have met the situation is now widely appreciated not only by the Chinese people, but all the Powers of the world, with a consequent marked improvement in our relations with China and increased mutual confidence between us and the other Powers.

With the assumption of the office of Provisional Executive by Marshal Tuan, Chi-jui, we have, on consultation with the Powers, recognized his Government as the *de fact* Government of China. We are not directly interested in the question, who will assume the reins of Government in China, or what constitutional system may be adopted in that country. With a long historical background and amidst the surroundings peculiar to the country, the Chinese people must be left free to order their own national life in their own way. All that we consider important is that China should be provided with a sufficiently strong government to fulfil her international obligations in good faith and to maintain peace and order within her borders.

Believing that the Provisional Government of China are seriously striving to astain these objects, we pray with deep sympathy for their success, and we are further prepared to render to China, in common with the other Powers, such friendly assistance as may lie in our power. It should however be clearly understood that such sympathy and assistance are extended, not so much to any particular person or any particular party in China, as to the whole nation of China whose greater good we have always at heart.

It is undoubtedly a tremendous undertaking to establish peace and unity in China. Although that work has not so far made such progress an might be desired, it must not be concluded that the Chinese people are not fully endowed with the gift of character needed for self-goverment. Such interence seems to us entirely unwarranted. In no case can we accept any plan based on these mistaken premises to place Chinese railways and other administrative organs under international control. We are satisfied that no sucn project is under contemplation by any foreign Government.

The reports that China may possibly become a Communist State, or that she contemplates repudiation of all inter-

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national commitments which she may deem prejudicial to herself, do not seem to us to be worthy of credence. We shall watch, with hope and tolerance, the efforts of the Chinese people to carry ou political reforms so much nceded for the country. While fully asserting our legitimate rights and interests in China, we shall give due and sympathetic consideration to the special conditions under which she is labouring, and we shall direct our best attention to the promotion of mutual understanding and cooperation - spiritual, cultural and economic-between the two nations.

Let us now turn to the Russian problem. As I stated here in the last Session, we fully realize that Russia and Japan, having common interests in many respects, are bound to maintain relations of amity and friendship. There have been, however, between them many important questions calling for solution, and involving in some cases difficulities of serious nature. If, therefore, the re-estableshment of diplomatic relations were not preceded by the adjustment of these pending questions, it is certain that there would immediately follow unpleasant disputes, compromising the future relations the two nations. Nothing is farther from our thught than the idea of bargaining away recognition of the Soviet Goverment, in return for oil or coal concession. We have only tried to forestall and eliminate sources of future trouble, in the belief that the restoration of Russo-Japanese diplomatic relations should be effected in a generally congenial atmesphere. This is the reason why so much time has already been taken in the negotiations. These negotations finally came to asuccessful close and a Basic Convention and supplementary documents were duly signed on the night of January 20.

The long outstanding questions have thus been satisfactorily adjusted, and upon the exchange of rafications of the bacts just siegned, friendly relations beween the two countries are to be formally re-opened. It is with sincere gratification that I am now able to announce this happy issue of the Russo-Japanese Conference at Peking. The contents of the Convention and documents in question will shortly be pub lisshed after the required formalities have been fulfilled. As for our relations with the Uuited States: it is enident that two nations should live in cordial friendship for all time and eo-operate with each other in the preat mission of promoting the peace and security of the Pacinc regions and of the world. We are confident that these vwies are shared by a vast majerity of the American people.

With regard to the discriminatory clause against Japanese in the Immigration Act of the United States of 1924, which we regret, I explained in the last Session of the Diet the circumstances attending the insertion of that clause and the views of the Government on the subject. The question still remains unsettled. It should, hewever, be remembered that a law cannot be modified except by law and that under the constitutional system of the United States, the legislatue is entirely independent of the executive. It is obvious, therefore, that the continuance of discussions between the two Govenments at this time will not, in itself, serve any useful question is that the American people shall come to have a correct understanding of our people and of our points of view. Impetuous mood or impassioned utterances will not conduce to intemational understanding. There is no doubt that the same love of justice that kindled American independence still continues to inspire the minds of the American people. The day will come when this fact will be fully demonstrated. It is gratifying to note that our relations with other countries are on a perfectly right track, marked by a steady growth of cordiality.

In conclusion, I wish to repeat that the guding principle of our foreign policy is to safeguard and promote our legitimate rights and interests, with due respect to these of other nations, and to advance intemational co-operation, insteead of intenational antagonism. In acting on this line of policy, we trust that we may Count upon the approval and support of the people.

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A History of the Japanese Stage

II

By F. Yamazaki

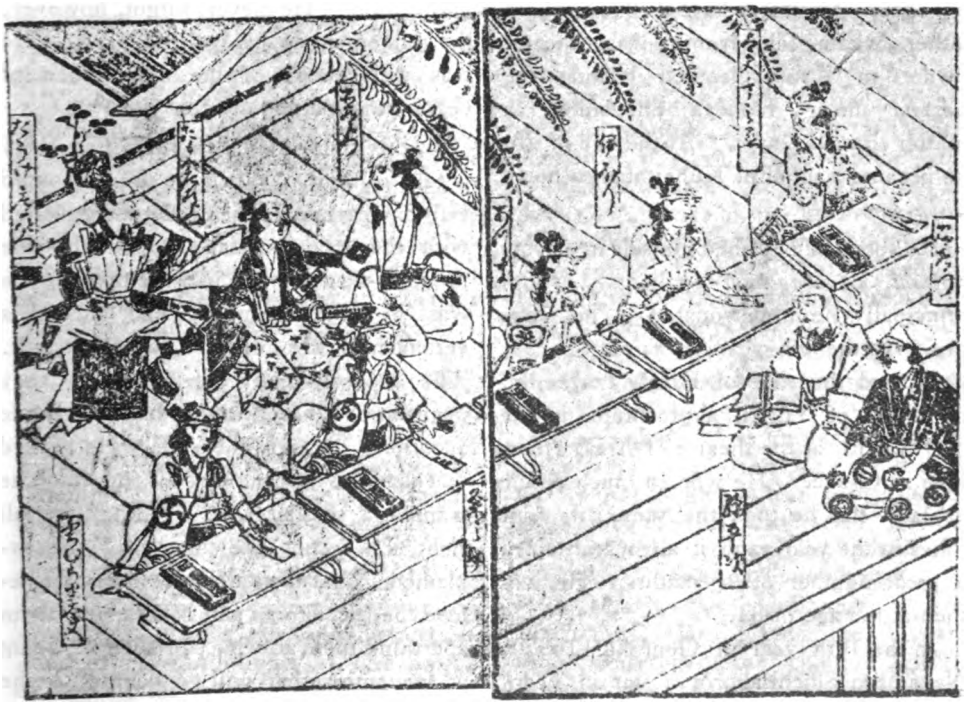
THE Genroku period, 1688-1703, was the most flourishing modern period of literature, art and drama in Japan.

Kyoto remained the centre of literature and art, cultivated there for some thousand years, while the political centre was transferred to Yedo. So, plays developed in Kyoto and Osaka more than elsewhere.

Kabuki plays made development, and the actors chiefly played the roles, in which they were strongest. These roles were *tachi-yaku*, mostly heroes of plays and good men; *kataki-yaku*, villains (the more important in position and the wickedest of which were called *jistu-aku*); *doke-kata*, jokers, fools and whipsters, the latter of which were called *han-doke*; *oyaji-gata*, old men; *kasha-gata*, old women, *kasha* being so-called mistresses in Kyoto; *wakashu-gata*, handsome young men; *koyaku*, children; and *waka-onna-gata*, young women.

Each actor had one fixed role suitable to his age, looks, physique and manner. This strict division of work gave him the advantage of mastering the part through its exclusive study, while it showed his strong and weak points and disadvantageously restrained his ability to one specified part, without allowing him to try it in other directions.

The *Yakusha-Hyobanki* and other books of criticism of actors, published one after



Wakashu **Waiting for Visitors to Sell their Favours (An Illustration of "Noramushi")**

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another, servedthe part of advertising the *kabuki* plays and helping their prosperity. This furnishes proof how these plays were looked upon as an important factor in society. These books include the above *Yakusha-Hyobanki*, published in 1656, the *Nora-mushi*, published in 1658, the *Mukino-ro*, published in 1662, the *Yenka-Tozen-gusa*, published in 1671, and the *Yaro-Kasen*, published in 1672, most of which spoke mainly of the actors' looks and not much of their ability and art

The *Yakusha-Mimikaki* was published in the fifth year of Genroku (1692). This was a book of pure criticism of the actors' ability. From this time on, similar books of criticism were published.

The representative actors in the first half of the Genroku period were Sakata Tojuro of Kyoto and Ichikawa Danjuro and Nakamura Shichisaburo of Yedo.

Sakata Tojuro (1645-1709) whose father, Sakata Ichizayemon was a theatre owner in Kyoto, learned beating the *tsuzumi* under Honeya Shoyemon, a master *tsuzumi* player. At the age of 20, he became a pupil of Kuhei Sugi, a noted *kasha-gata* actor.

He soon distinguished himself in playing *yatsushi*, or *wagotoshi* (gallants), whom principally he impersonated in his stage life. In the 6th year of Enpo (1678), he played the role of Fujiya Izayemon, the lover of Yûgiri, a prostitute, in the play Yûgiri, at the theatre of Araki Hikojibei in Osaka. He won so much public applause that he took the same role four times in the year, and it always attracted a great number of spectators. He was then at the age of 34.

In the 10th year of Genroku (1697), Nakamura Shichisaburo, a star in Yedo, came to Kyoto and performed in rivalry with Tojuro. He had poor houses, while Tojuro drew full houses. The citizens spoke in high terms of Tojuro, whose superiority in art won his success. But Tojuro was not deceived by this undeserved praise and said that the spectators of Kyoto had not yet sufficiently appreciated the art of the Yedo actor, which fact gave him his success; but as soon as they acquired a taste for his rival's art, his (Tojuro's) position would be menaced.

As had been expected by Tojuro, the next play by Shichisaburo drew crowded houses, while Tojuro had poor houses. Each saw the play of the other and admired it, in consequence of which each gained respect for the other, and the two became intimate friends.

Tojuro's plays were realistic. He did like *shosa-goto* (posture-dances), for which his lack of skill in dancing is given as part reason. He never forgot, however, the refinement of his realistic plays. He was well aware of the importance of beautifying matters of fact.

In this connection, an interesting story is told of him. When he impersonated Fujiya Izayemon, he was not satisfied with the straw sandals supplied by the property-man for use in a scene when he was to take them off and ascend a verandah. He ordered another pair. The property-man told him that they ought to fit his feet, as they had been made according to their measure. He replied that that was just the reason, for which he wanted a smaller size. "They are all right, if I do not take them off," he explained, "but they are to be taken off before the spectators, and if they see them and think them too big for such a gallant as Izayemon, that will go counter to the sentiment of the love affair."

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In another play he was to act the part of a lover. A sudden idea came to him. He made advances to the mistress of a restaurant. She agreed and took him into a back-room, the light in which she stealthly put out when they entered. He carefully observed her conduct and left the house hurriedly. He applied this experience to his action on the stage and won great applause from the spectators.

He knew that the play is a synthetical art. He once declared that it was erroneous for the leading actors of the day to strive to draw to themselves the entire attention of the spectators whereas the play ought to be the main attraction. He respected his play-wrights and never amended their plays of his own accord. He always spoke of the theatre as for showing plays and not the actors. He was an actor of the most progressive views and ability, in accord with the views of art of to-day. Among the leading actors of to-day we can mention Nakamura Ganjiro, the foremost actor in Osaka, as resembling him on the stage.

Yamashita Kyoyemon was a famous actor in Kyoto (1652-1717). A son of a lacquerer of Kyoto, he led the stage and was at the head of a company attached to a theatre in Kyoto. He was a formidable rival of Tojuro. He had a grand appearance. He was good both in domestic and historical plays, although he was not a skilled dancer and was not so good at fighting and speaking.

Onoyama Uyemon and Kataoka Nizayemon the First (1673-1704) well portrayed villains. The former disappeared from the stage soon after he became famous, perhaps on account of premature death, and the latter long monopolized the public favor. Nizayemon was at first a samisen player and later went on the stage. He was an expert in the role of villains at first, but subsequently, he came to play in title roles. The present Kataoka Nizayemon is his tenth descendant. The name has been inherited since the Genroku era. There is no other such old family except the family of Ichikawa Danjuro, in the theatrical world of Japan.

Ichikawa Danjuro the First, one of the representative actors of Yedo, (1660-1704) had a samurai father, who served Lord Takeda in Koshu. After the fall of the Takeda Family, he came to Shimofusa Province and then to Yedo, where he settled. Danjuro, his son, entered the theatrical world in the 11th year of Kanbun (1671) through the introduction of the proprietor of the Yamamura Theatre, one of his father's friends. He first appeared on the stage of the Nakamura Theatre at the age of 14 in the first year of Enpo (1673), when he played Sakata-no-Kintoki, a brave boy. With his face made up in red and black, he gallantly fought amidst the spectators' applause. This was the beginning of *ara-goto* (the role of a rough character), which has since been a popular type of Japanese drama. The *ara-goto* is a scene, wild, grand and grotesque, far from being realistic, dominated by a brave warrior with mysterious power of a frightful demon or a ghost. The representation of such figures was an adaption from the *Kinpirabon*, books of ballad-drama, published a little before the time in question. The books described valiant deeds of Kinpira, a son of Sakata-no-Kintoki, and Taketsuna, a son of Watanabe-no-Tsuna, in killing savage beasts and subjugating devils; and these books were popularly read in Yedo.

The making up of the face in red and black was adapted from Chinese plays in the attempt to give a deep grotesque impression to the spectators, and it suited the fancy of the Yedo people, who had a great disposition to welcome novelty.

In March, the eighth year of Enpo (1680), Danjuro played the Yujo-ron (the Courtesan) at the Ichimura Theatre. He took the role of Fuwa Banzayemon, whose scabbard touched that of Nagoya

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Sanzaburo, with the consequence that they quarreled. This was the origin of the play known to-day as "*Sayaate.*"

In January, the first year of Jyokyo (1684), the Narukami-Shonin was put on at the Nakamura Theatre, and he took the leading part as the Priest Narukami. The plot was that the priest sealed up the dragon, and a drought ensued, and that a beauty, at the order of the Lord seduced the priest and broke the seal, on which there was a beneficial rainfall. This was the first appearance of *Narukami*, which has been often staged since then.

In January, the seventh year of Genroku (1694), he gave the performance of Asahina Saburo's brave breaking of the gate at the Murayama Theatre, Kyoto, the lively scene of which astonished the spectators of the city. While in Kyoto, he learned *haikai* from Shii-no-moto Saimaro, and he was given the nom-de-plume Saigyu. This set the example to actors of having a nom de plum,

In the tenth year of Genroku (1697), he came back to Yeda, where he acted as Kamakura Gongoro in *Daifukucho-sankai-Nagoya*. This was the first performance of what is now known as "*Shibaraku.*" In the 15th year of the same era (1702), the *Hoshiai-Junidan* was played. Its plot was that Mina-moto-no-Yoshitsune and his suite of fugitives passed through a barrier under the disguise of *yamabushi* (itinerant priests), thanks to the resourcefulness of Benkei, one of his followers. This play was later renamed *Kanjin-cho*, and is famous and popular to this day. When first staged it created such a sensation among the publie that its run lasted 150 days. In the year following, Danjuro the First was assassinated by Ushijima Hanroku, an actor, owing to a grudge..

He was talented in *ara-goto*. His time was not so long after the War Period and there was still a warlike disposition among the numerous samurai in Yedo; and among them the *ara-goto* found great support and applause. He is credited with the introduction of this particular style on the stage. The action was however, rather primitive. Kyoto people applauded the nevelty, but able dramatic critics did not receive a good impression.

Nakamura Shichisaburo, another actor from Yedo, won the respect of the local dramatic critics, but it was not so with Danjuro. The Kyoto men were pleased with his precise art but disliked his bold action. The reason was certainly the difference between the Yedo men and the Kyoto and Osaka men in character. Apart from this we doubt if Danjuro was fully refind in his art.

The creation of such manly and straight forward drama by Danjuro the First, at a time when the existing drama mostly treated of affairs of love, is suggestive of his greatness. Moereover, he originated many dramas, not a few of which are on the stage to-day to his credit. Of course, there was probably an unkown play-wright under him. From the fact that he wrote some plays himself under the pen name of Mimasuya Hyogo, however, we may assume that the plays, in which he took the leading part, contained many of his original suggestions. In this, he resembled Shakespere.

The peculiar style of his acting was but a manifestation of his character. On one occasion, he was called by a daimyo, who ordered him to render an *ara-goto*. When he acted, he kicked the paper-screeens and broke them and he took his clothes off. His men were afraid of this provoking the anger of the daimyo. But he told the lord unconcerndly that what he had done was *ara-goto*, and the lord was much pleased. Later, he said that no *ara-goto* could have been rendered well, if he had feared the deaimyo's anger.

Nakamura Shichisaburo was a close rival of Danjuro the First. He died in 1708. They were in contrast. Danjuro was not a realist, but Shichisabure a pure realist. The former was bold and brave and the latter elegant and beautiful. Married to a daughter of Nakamura Kanzaburo the Second, Shichisaburo was renowned as a *wagoto-shi* (an actor playing the lover's part) on the stage of the Yamamura Theatre. In the 10th year of Genroku, he played in Kyoto the *Asama-ga-take* and won his reputation. He made the acqua-

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intance of Sakata Tojuro there. He was an expert dancer. After two years' absence, he came back to Yedo and staged the *Asama-ga-take* at the Yamamura Theatre. It drew large houses and ran for about 120 days. His style was analogous to that of Tojuro, and was a simplification of the latter's action, which seemed rather too heavy and tedions to the Yedo people.

Nakamura Denkuro (1713) was next in reputation to the above two. He was the heir of Nakamura Kanzaburo. He once quitted the stage becoming the proprietor of the Nakamura Theatre. Later, he returned to the stage. In the *Yakko-Asaina-Oiso-Gayoi*, he took the part of Asaina, the hero, whose peculiar style of hair dressing and face painting (*saru-kuma*) was originated by him. He used pure Kwanto dialect in wording. The device was greatly applauded by the Yedo men. Even to-day Asaina Saburo is represented in the original model. Denkuro was at home in *ara-goto* and dancing. The language used by *kyokaku* (men of chivalrous spirit) of Yedo was used on the stage by him, and he played his roles in his peculiar style using this brusque wording and his humorous talent.

The most noted actor taking the part of villains in Yedo in that age was Yamanaka Heikuro (1632-1724). He impersonated Fujiwara-no-Jihei at the Nakamura Theatre in the 2nd year of Genroku, which distinguished him as an impersonator of villains. He was best at representing wicked *kuge* (nobles). When Danjuro played the *Shibaraku* in the tenth year of Genroku, he played up to him, which gave another occasion for the public recognition of his ability. When he enacted a support's part for young Danjuro the Second in the fourth year of Shotoku (1714), when he met Danjuro, he praised him highly, saying that he was quite worthy of the successor of Danjuro the First in his courage and bearing, with which he fearlessly stared back at Heikuro whose glare frightened all his opponents on the stage.

His art had characteristically a touch of realistic weirdness and melancholy. How he took pains to realistically enact his parts may be seen from the following story.

One day, he way studying in his upstairs room how to impersonate a demoness. He called his wife. She went upstairs, and approached her husband, not knowing what was happening, and fainted with terror on being glared at by the husband with the ghastly look of the demoness. On this, he was satisfied with the success of his make-up. He enacted the role, receiving favourable criticism.

Otani Hiroyemon (1666-1721) was another famous actor of the age.

Among the Yedo actors taking female parts, none was equal to the abovementioned, who got their matches from Kyoto or Osaka. Ogino Sawanoshin (1656-1712) was the leader of them. He played the *Onna-Narukami* at the Nakamura Theatre in the 9th year of Genroku in imitation of the Narukami-Shonin by Danjuro the First.

Then, Mizuki Tatsunosuke (1673-1745) and Yoshizawa Ayame (1673-1729) equally were spoken of as good *onna-gata*. The former was showy and a good dancer. The latter was modest and amiable and expert in tragic scenes.

Tatsunosuke received frequent applause for his posture-dances. He placed in company with Sakato Tojuro at the Miyako Mandayu Theatre, Kyoto. The play was the *Ima-Genji-Rokuju-jo*, in which he took the part of a girl, who, envious of the love affair of a cat, acted like it. His representation of the cat brought down the house. He remained in Yedo until the 10th year of Genroku, when he came back to Kyoto. He took the title-role in the *Yedo-Miyage-Nanabake*. He showed his spectators how clever he was at quick changes. He made sudden transformations into a dog, a young noble, a hoary headed old man, a girl, a young man, a female ghost and a gorilla. He was successful in different posture-dances.

Yoshizawa Ayame came to Osaka a poor man and was taught by Arashi San-yemon the First and Yamashita Kyo-yemon. He was not so good at dancing, while but showed special talent in playing the part of good house-wives.

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The Women of Japan Today

Part II

Life of Middle-Class Women

IT is difficult to generalize on the life of middle class-women for it differs according to provinces and towns. Therefore it must be noted that there are some exceptions to the description given here.

When a girl is born to a middle class family, she is given her name by her father or grandfather in most cases. When it is a *shizokn* (old samurai) family, the name is carefully written on a piece of *hosho* paper, and is placed before the bed of the infant on a day within a week after birth.

The naming of Japanese women takes an interesting form. The name is usually of two or three syllables. It is written in Chinese characters which are read by easy Japanese pronunciation. 千代 are Chinese characters pronounced *chiyo* and it means the parental wish that their child may live a thousand years. 聡 is a Chinese character pronounced *sato*, and 敏 is another Chinese character of the same pronunciation. Both mean intelligence, which the parents wish their child to have. The custom was inaugurated among the court people about thousand years ago, when Chinese characters were first introduced and it was gradually extended to the middle class.

These girls are taken care of by their mothers or grandmothers, as there are no nurses to take charge of them as in upper class families. The babies are taken to the tutelary shrines on the thirtieth day after their birth, which is known as *miya-mairi*. (See the frontispiese of the last number of our magazine). The custom is more strictly observed in the provinces than in the towns. The local guardian deities are prayed to for the protection of the babies. At the age of about 5, girls of comparatively well-to-do families are sent out to kindergartens. Thy enter common schools at six years of age.

In the towns, common school girls mostly wear foreign clothes. In the provinces, they are not so westernized in dress as in the towns, and it is generally the rule that all school girls wear maroon or purple *hakama* (skirts).

Japanese sewing is taught at the common schools to the fifth and sixth year class girls. But this lesson is given only two hours a week, which is too short for pupils wishing to learn so troublesome an art as the needlework of Japanese clothes. They are, therefore, taught it at home also. At the same time, they take lessons in music, the tea-ceremony or flower-arrangement in their spare hours. *Koto* is the only music taught to girls of old samurai families in the provinces, while in the towns, *samisen* and Japanese dances are learned by the daughters of tradesmen.

At the age of 13, girls enter high schools. Until about a decade ago daughter of traders and others were given such higher education but seldom, as the parents thought it unnecessary. To-day it is the common idea that the high school education is necessary.

Girls are graduated from high school at 18 or 19. This age was the marriageable one in old days, but nowadays it is 22 or 23 although the old idea is still retained in

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Girls Going to Primary School

the provinces where the daughters are married soon upon their graduation from high school.

Marriage is arranged mostly through third parties. A respected gentleman or his wife volunteers to match suitable parties from among friends or relatives. The parents of each are told of the lineage, age, character, education, looks, etc., of the other. If the proposal is found worthy of consideration the son and daughter are told of it by the parents, and if they are not opposed, they hold a formal interview at a fixed place, after which a match is made, if each is pleased with the other.

The making of a match at one interview has been a matter of astonishment to Westerners, who think it as rather indiscreet, and we often come across their criticisms of it in foreign papers.

There are different methods taken nowadays for removing the evils from marriages arranged through match-makers. One of them is that after the formal interview, they have friendly intercourse with each other for about a year under the supervision of the parents, after which they marry, if each satisfactorily understands the other.

Even to-day, old marriage system is not considered objectionable, provided that the go-between has sense and high personality. There is no complete social system in Japan, in which young men and women are so free as to associate freely. If they fall in love, it is simply their own love aroused rashly and without intellectual consideration as to blood, standing, and character. So long as they drunk with the joy of this love, their defects are veiled. When their affection loses its fervency, their defects are exposed, and

Middle Class Girls in Foreign Stye of Hair Dressing

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the couple feels disillusion and is disappointed, which culminates oftentimes in separation.

The love-match is not thought of in the middle order of Japanese society as quite ideal. There are, however, many men and women, who are free and fetterless of family restraint, and make good matches of their own selection, an unavoidable course taken by persons placed in such circumstances.

The wedding is very simple among the middle-class people. In Tokyo and Osaka, it may be held simply at the Daijingu (a Shinto shrine) under the Shinto system. Formerly, it cost heavily, but to-day a sum of 500-1,000 yen is enough for a troussau, some brides bringing an amount of money with them instead of clothes, etc.

Middle-class men usually marry middle-class women. Japanese married women are unequalled in faithfulness. In large towns, newly married couples form new homes of their own as a result of the introduction of new ideas, but in the provinces, it is not allowed, and the bride is duty bound to serve the parents of her husband as faithfully as she serves him. This is an important item of the marriage conditions, the old idea being still held among the provincials that she is married into the family of the husband as well as to him.

Such wives must work busily as housekeepers as soon as they are married. They cook the meals sometimes with the aid of a maid. They sew and wash the clothes for their families. This regular household work keeps them so busy that they have scarcely time to rest. Upper class women have more leisure, their household affairs being left to the management of numerous maids. Lower class women can be contented with a simpler life than the middle-class, as they need not maintain their houses as well as the latter. Middle-class wives are, therefore, in the hardest position among Japanese women and may be compared to German housewives.

Newly educated young men and women are inclined to speak disapprovingly of wives being so occupied at home which they regard as the outcome of antiquated ideas. Women of such homes are interested in social questions, although they form still but a fraction of society.

Family women amuse themselves by playing the *koto*, by making tea or by arranging flowers at home or by going to theatres, cinematograph halls or variety-halls. No Japanese middle class wives have interested themselves in athletic sports as yet.

At the same time, there is an increased number of those working in offices or professions among them girls' school teachers, flower-arrangement and *koto* teachers, typists and *hannin* officials in the Communications Department.

Ideas about women's chastity have changed of late. This change is not confined to the middle-class of society; yet it may be referred to here, as middle-class women most fitly represent the women of Japan.

In olden times, the chastity of Japanese women was regarded as absolute, married samurai women never remarrying after the death of their husbands and observing chastity to death. If they were forced to remarry, they felt it shameful, and others looked down upon them with condemnation. Times have changed since then, and at present, this idea is set at nought as being an unnatural form of morality, and everybody thinks it reasonable for women

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separated from the husbands by death to remarry, if circumstances permit. Japanese married women are as virtuous to-day as they were in by gone times, there being no criticism of them as to the conduct after marriage as well as before. Japanese husbands do not look on their wives with a suspicious eye regarding their faithfulness after they return from travel abroad although there are of course exceptions to the rule.

In the provinces, village girls for a certain period are allowed freely to keep company with the village youths, which often results in love affairs. When they are once married, however, they are under such strict social restraint as to admit of no such rumours or criticism about their conduct.

It has been considered an example of female virtue in Japan that women tacitly allow rumours of their husbands' love affairs with other women to pass and to wink at their husbands' dalliance with geisha. Such profligacy on the part of their husbands has been even attributed to their defective conduct towards their husbands. The error of these conceptions has been pointed out, however, by educated women of to-day, who demand faithfulness from their husbands as much as to the husbands. This is generally admitted to be reasonable, although it is very hard to put in practice in Japanese homes, especially in the provinces, where old-fashioned ideas are still powerful.

Children are brought up entirely by the mother, the father, though directly interested in their home education, being busy at his work. During their school age, the mother is busy beyond description. She prepares breakfast for them She must dress the hair of the girls. They mostly wear foreign dress to-day, and it keeps her busy seeing that their clothes are clean and in good order.

Thus, the middle-class wife has to devote the second half of her life to bringing up her children. Some people speak of it as a misfortune of Japanese women or even their curse, while others regard it as their pride for it is the discharge of their greatest mission. Anyhow, we must bless ourselves for the happiness of having wives so self-forgetful and so rich in the self-sacrificing spirit, which may be found much more in the second order of society than in other classes. We have often met Europeans and Americans, who are very happy with this type of Japanese woman as wife, while marrying Western women are always troubled by conjugal quarrels, and at last divorce them. This is the most significant esult of the difference in the attitude for Oriental and Western women to their husbands.

There are in Tokyo forty-three societies and associations, with middle-class women as their leading spirits, and they are combined under the name of the Tokyo Women's Federation. This federation is divided into the Social, Educational, Political and Labour Departments, in which unmarried women are most active.

The Educational Department is led by girls' school teachers. It is making energetic exertions for the protection of children. It observes a Children's Protection Day and is endeavouring to bring the mothers into closer touch with the schools.

The most conspicuous work done by the Political Department is in connection with the agitation for the abolition of licensed prostitution. It memorialized the Government to reject the applications

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Decorative Battledores with Portraits of Actors and Actresses

for the re-building of the prostitute quarters demolished by the earthquake. It distributed pamphlets, held lectures and adopted different other forms of demonstration against the system, wishing to awaken the Government authorities and the citizens to the necessity of abolishing it. Unfortunately. however, its energetic efforts have been unsuccessful.

The Federation has joined in agitations for peace. It has taken the Japanese immigration question in America into serious consideratien. It distributed manifestoes among the women of Japan concerning the question. It planned despatching representatives of Japanese women to America to meet the President.

The Labour Department is staffed by typists, clerks, telephone girls and other business women. They are eagerly studying labour problems with the intention to meet the oppression of capital when a woman labour question arises.

While a section of middle class women is taking such active part in the world's affairs, the larger portion still keep indoors as faithful housekeepers. This is, however, unavoidable in view of the discrepancy in the character and education of the new and old type women.

Middle class women usually wear cotton clothes. When going out, they are dressed in common grade silk·kimonos or clothes of higher value as the occasion may demand. Some adult women are dressed after Western fashion, but they are still very few and attract attention, when they pass through the streets, although they are increasing in number.

Ideals of marriage by middle class women once appeared in a Japanese newspaper. They were first, that the husband must earn enough to live on and, second that he must not be with his parents, or have no parents. This is a real demand of the young Japanese women of to-day, for it suggests the endless quarrels between the wives and their mothers-in-law in old-fashioned Japanese homes. Once, soldiers were the ideal husbands of Japanese women, but such an ideal has decreased greatly in force, and to-day men with a sound profession are preferred, as a natural outcome of the times. Middle school teachers are more desired as husbands than before, as a result of their increased earnings, due to the growing scarcity of the supply of teachers, while the number of women seeking a sounder life rather than a showy and unsteady one, as previously, has increased.

Essentially, the life of middle class women in Japan is the hardest of all classes of society. It is said that there is an increased number of them visiting matorimonial agencies seeking marriage. This is a striking contrast to the bashfulness, on account of which they could not even utter a word at the "miai" (the formal interview before marriage) with out the help of the mother or elder sister, in times gone by. This shows the progress of women on the one hand, and is evidently a result of the growing difficulty to marry, among this class of women, on the other.

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Genesis of the "No" Dance

By Mark King

IT says in history that all Japanese dancing originated from the dancing of the Goddess Ame-no-Uzume-no-Mikoto who danced at the gate of a cave in order to lure the Sun-Goddess Amaterasu-Ohmikami from the cave, which was called "Ame-no-Iwaya," in which the Sun-Goddess was hiding in anger at the outragious behavior of Susanowo-no-Mikoto, her younger brother. The Goddess Ame-no-Uzume-no-Mikoto put on a periwig made of the green tender branches which grew on Mount Ame-no-Kaguyama, tied up her sleeves with a band of ivy, carried a bundle of bamboo-grass, and bared her soft white breasts, and she sung a melodious tune, and danced a kind of step dance on a wooden chest—it was ancient burlesque dancing. The dance made her famous, and her name was handed down to posterity, and her face was taken as a model for the mask of "Otafuku" (or "Okame") or the "Moon-faced Woman." There is proof positive that the sacred music and dance in the temple-court, which dance was called "Kagura," come from the Goddess Ame-no-Uzume's dancing.

At the beginning of the thirteenth centry, there were two musical dances:—the "Ga-Gaku" and the "San-Gaku." The "Ga-Gaku" was a classical music-dance which was held in the Imperial court, and the "San-Gaku," which originated in "Kagura," was performed in the temple-court: the latter being very popular among the people. Thenceafter, the name "San-Gaku" became "Saru Gaku," but from the year 1229-1232 the quality of the dancing greatly deteriorated. There were many "Saru-Gaku" Schools:—Waya, Katsuta and Shumon were three branches of one of the "Saru Gaku" schools. It was performed at the Great Shrine (Ise Daijingu) in Ise Province; Yamashina, Hiye, and Shimosaka also were three branches of another school, and it was performed at the Hiyoshi Shrine in Omi Province. Another three schools were Honza (Main School) in Tamba Province, Shinza (New School) in Kawachi Province, and Hojoji in Settsu Province; they were the same dance Performed at the Kame and Sumiyoshi Shrines by turns. Emai, Yusaki, Tobi, and Sakado were four branches of another school, and was performed at the Kasuga Shrine in Yamato Province. The "Saru-Gaku" school of Yamato Province was most excellent and made great progress, greater than any other school under the protection of the Shogun of the Ashikaga dynasty (1336-1573). When at its zenith the performance of the "Saru-Gaku" was called "No." Professor Tateki Ōwada, Litt. D., descants upon the origin of the "No" in his book entitled the "Yôkyoku Hyohshaku" (The Annotation of the "No" Song), as fellows:—"The word "No" is drived from "No" of the "Gei-No" in Japanse which means an accomplishment." The "No" dance, at any rate, had been modeled on all that was best in dancing of the "Saru-Gaku, and the "Den-Gaku"—"Den-Gaku" was a very common dance among the peasantry.

The four branches of the "Saru-Gaku" school of Yamato Province have handed down to the present becoming the four schools of the modern "No" dance, as following:—Kom-Paru (Emai), Kwan-Ze (Yûsaki), Hô-Shô (Tobi), and Kon-Gô (Sakato). Each school varies slightly from others in the singing of poems and songs with the peculiar intonation.

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Commercial Intelligence

Foreign Trade during 1924.—The Finance Department reports the foreign trade of Japan during 1924 as 4,258,630,000 yen, consisting of 1,806,814,000 yen worth of exports and 2,451,816,000 yen worth of imports, the excess of imports over exports amounting to 645,002,000 yen.

Prospects ot Cotton Spinning Industry.—Mr. F. Taniguchi, the President of the Godo Boseki K.K., speaks optimistically of the prospects of the cotton spinning industry during the first half, 1925. Referring to China as the most important market for Japanese cotton goods, he looks to some distant future time when the Japanese goods may possibly be ousted from the Chinese market by the comparatively inexpensive Chinese industry, if an attempt should be made by China to prevent the importation of foreign products by raising the import tariff. The safest way to meet this possibility is, in his opinion, to invest capital in the Chinese cotton spinning industry.

Iron Industry.—The combination of Government and private iron works in Japan has been advocated by Mr. Takahashi, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and some others, and an official committee is being appointed to investigate the possibilities. In this connection, the following figures showing the production and demand of pig iron and other iron in Japan during the past ten years are interesting:—

Year	Production French Tons	Demand French Tons
Pig Iron:		
1914 . .	301,726	473,673
1915 . .	320,627	492,912
1916 . .	291,892	627,905
1917 . .	462,792	654,552
1918 . .	606,458	873,023
1919 . .	612,609	956,422
1920 . .	519,875	917,659
1921 . .	480,300	752,861
1922 . .	559,310	965,217
1923 . .	610,751	1,034,961
Other Iron:		
1914 . .	282,516	651,804
1915 . .	342,870	550,509
1916 . .	381,221	775,543
1917 . .	513,445	1,134,916
1918 . .	539,637	1,129,410
1919 . .	552,601	1,172,351
1920 . .	527,461	1,475,531
1921 . .	561,829	1,123,422
1922 . .	662,022	1,682,762
1923 . .	819,694	1,522,385

The Luxury Duty.—It is reported that the financial authorities are considering removing some ten commodities from the list of luxuries, with the approval of the present session of the Imperial Diet.

Commodity Prices.—Mr. Fujiwara, the President of the Oji Paper Mill Co., discussing the question of commodity prices, sees the advisability of leaving them to take their natural course. It is a natural consequence of the fall of the exchange that commodities rise so high, he argues, and the tendency cannot be regulated artificially.

Mandarin Oranges.—The exportation of mandarin oranges to America is being encouraged earnestly by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. It is said that the American demand for Japanese oranges is increasing considerably for holiday use. Mr. Ishii, Japanese Commercial Agent in Argentine, reports the

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hopefulness of that country as a market for apples, oranges, etc., from Japan, if it is possible to shorten the time of shipment between Japan and Argentine to about 50 days instead of 70 or 75 days as at present.

Oversea Extension of the Mitsui Bank.—It is understood that the Mitsui Bank has decided to enlarge its foreign exchange business, for which it is placing a foreign department in its head office.

Oriental Colonization Co.—The sphere of operations of the Oriental Colonization Co. extends over Manchuria, Mongolia and South Sea Islands, besides Korea, and capital has been invested by it in these places in the order of Manchuria, Mongolia, Korea and South Sea Islands, but it is intended hereafter to make Korea the principal scene of operations says Mr. Kubota, the President of the company. This is for the reason that there are no fresh enterprises attractive to the company except in Korea. It is desired to increase the yield of rice in Korea by 6,000,000 *koku* by cultivating 300,000 *chobu* of new lands. The carrying out of this and other plans will require funds of 260,000,000 yen, which the company's Directors wish to raise partly by means of a foreign loan.

Foreign Loans.—In 1924, several foreign loans were raised by Japan in England and America. The list is headed by Government loans of 550,000,000 yen in England and America, following which come a debenture issue of 30,000,000 yen and another loan of £500,000 in England by the Tokyo Electric Light Co., a debenture issue of $15,000,000 in America by the Daido Electric Power Co., a debenture issue of 50,000,000 yen in America by the Industrial Bank of Japan, a loan of £500,000 in America by the Oji Paper Mill Co., a loan of 3,000,000 yen in England by the Fuji Spinning Co. and a loan of 3,000,000 yen in England by the N. Y. K., to mention the principal ones.

A Big Loss on Sugar.—Japanese sugar mills are said to be facing a great loss on their purchases of sugar in Java in consequence of the recent fall of the sugar market there. The loss is estimated at a little over 9,000,000 yen.

Food Trade.—Returns of the Finance Departmet for the first eleven months of 1924 give the food trade of Japan as 319,344,000 yen for imports and 101,349,000 yen for exports, showing a balance of 217,995,000 yen against us. When compared with the same interval, 1923, the imports gained 98,022,000 yen and the exports 18,736,000 yen. The following give the details:—

(In Thousands of Yen)

Exports:

Crude Manufactures:

Article	Jan-Nov.	Comp. with Same Period, 1923
Hulled and Unhulled Rice. . .	1,255	485 Dec.
Peas and Beans .	7,190	420 Inc.
Marine Products .	22,702	4,993 ,,
Others. . . .	9,352	1,968 ,,
Total . . .	40,499	6,896 ,,

Finished Goods:

Starches . . .	228	34 Inc.
Teas	11,835	3,446 Dec.
Refined Sugar. .	25,888	12,249 Inc.
Beer	2,104	122 Dec.
Canned Food . .	7,381	1,604 Inc.
Others. . . .	13,414	1,521 ,,
Total . . .	60,850	11,840 ,,
Grand Total	101,349	18,736 ,,

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Imports:
Crude Manufactures:

Article	Jan-Nov.	Comp. with Same Period 1923
Hulled and Unhulled Rice. . .	68,752	39,661 Inc.
Wheat	67,750	27,064 ,,
Peas and Beans .	53,935	8,559 ,,
Eggs	13,947	1,604 Dec.
Others	30,969	14,609 Inc.
Total . . .	235,353	88,288 ,,
Finished Goods:		
Sugar	55,602	10,446 Inc.
Table Salt . . .	3,633	1,318 ,,
Others	24,756	2,030 Dec.
Total . . .	83,991	9,734 Inc.
Grand Total	319,344	98,022 ,,

Kanegafuchi Spinning Co.—For the half yearly term just ending, the Kanegafuchi Spinning Co. netted 7,565,913 yen, to which is added 10,666,319 yen brought over from the preceding term, making a total of 18,232,232 yen, with which a dividend will be paid for the term at the rate of 38 per cent. per annum and due appropriations will be made for the various reserve funds, carrying forward the balance of 11,489,042 yen.

Commodity Prices in 13 Cities.—During November, 1924, the average index number of wholesale commodity prices in Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, Kyoto, Nagoya, Yokohama, Hiroshima, Kanazawa, Sendai, Otaru, Fukuoka, Niigata and Kochi was 107.3 as against 100, the average figure for the three years 1921-1923, showing an advance of 1.5 per cent. over the preceding month. Of the 56 commoties returned, 35 rose, 9 fell and 12 were unchanged. Meats advanced 5.6 per cent., cloths 3.6 per cent., seasonings and table-luxuries 1.5 per cent., building materials 1.1 per cent., fuel 0.41 per cent., fertilizers 0.29 per cent. and cereals 0.15 per cent. The index number in the above cities in November, 1924, October, 1924 and November, 1923 may be mentioned as follows:—

City	Nov. 1924.	Oct. 1924.	Nov. 1923.
Tokyo . .	106	106	107
Osaka . .	104	104	97
Kobe . .	108	107	100
Kyoto . .	110	108	103
Nagoya . .	107	106	103
Yokohama .	109	107	103
Hiroshima .	105	104	100
Kanazawa .	109	107	102
Sendai . .	107	107	102
Otaru . .	106	104	101
Fukuoka . .	112	107	100
Niigata . .	198	106	102
Kochi . .	108	106	102

Output of Cotton Yarns.—During December, 1924, the associated spinning mills' production of cotton yarns amounted to 201,908 boxes as against 190,916 boxes for the preceding month, showing an increase of 10,992 boxes, and as against 177,800½ boxes for the same month, 1923, a gain of 24,107½ boxes. The figure was the greatest ever recorded, being 1,454 boxes over the past record of 200,454 boxes for November, 1922. The principal causes of the increase were the steady appreciation of cotton yarns since September last and a general attempt to increase the output by each mill at the season when the goods usually increase in production for climatic and other reasons. The cotton yarns held by the chief warehousemen in Osaka and Kobe on December 31st stood at 10,686 boxes, an increase of 2,748 boxes over the preceding ten days.

Production of Sugar in Formosa.—The latest investigation gives an estimate of the yield of sugar in Formosa, excluding brown sugar, for the present season as 7,741,000 piculs, gaining 404,000 piculs over last year's actual output of 7,337,000 piculs.

Trade with China.—During 1924, Japan's trade with China amounted to 744,213,000 yen, of which 449,201,000 yen was exports and 295,012,000 yen imports, showing a balance of 154,189,000 yen in favour of Japan.

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From the Japanese Press

Aviation in Japan:—Aviators are no longer for the simple purpose of war, but make possible a practical and economic means of traffic in addition, says the *Osaka Asahi* of January 2nd. Since the World War, the chassis and motors have been so much improved by all countries that aviation is now nearly free from danger, the regular passenger services between London and Paris having practically proved safes than the steamship services, and there being aerial navigation companies run susessfully in England, France, America, Germany and other countries.

In Japan, it is regrettable that air-craft are in a poor stage of development as compared with Western countries, as far as the private aerial world is concerned, although military air-craft seem to have attained considerable development. It is impossible to expect here an age of practical and commercial aviation, at an early ddte the people generally conceiving it to be perilous to human life. In fact, there have often been falls of aeroplanes in this country, which keeps aviation still in a dangerous stage. Does this primitive state of affairs account for the backwardness of the art of making of aeroplanes and for the poor training of aviators? No! It is because of nothing but want of encouragement, protection and of co-operative Government and private efforts and sacrifice.

The stages of danger and frequent accidents were experienced in every advanced country in aviation, and they were passed through by the Government and people's undaunted and co-operative efforts at a great sacrifice of money and human life, until the brilliant success of to-day was achieved.

The rapid development of air-craft in Europe and America was urged on by the World War. It must be pointed out, however, that the private aeroplane works developed even before the war were the basis of the present marked development. In the meantime, there has been no such co-operation and aid for private aeroplane works and for training aviators in Japan.

The military men know the utmost importance of aeroplanes for the national defence, but want of their co-operation with the people has crippled the development of aviation in Japan. The training of aviators and the making of motors must be advanced equally for military and prieate aviation; otherwise a truly independent aerial army, effective for the national defence, cannot be built up. In Engiand, France, America and Italy, private aviation developed before the completion of the Army and Naval aerial arrangements. In Japan, private aviation has been comparatively ignored. How can we expect a sufficient and prompt development of our aircraft simply by extending the military force? Another reason for the comparatively small development of private aviation in Japan is that few wealthy and other powerful persons have made endeavours to help it forward.

Note Issues against Securities:—An extension of note issues against securities by the Bank of Japan has been advocated by a section of Japanese financiers of late as a means of slackening off the stringency

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of money after the earthquake, and the financial authorities are said to have the intention to approve an extension of the system up to 300,000,000 yen, for the reason that with the existing limit, the excess issue of notes cannot be expected to disappear and an extension of limit issue would be all the more necessary for mitigating the sudden tightness of money upon a contraction of the specie reserve, which may be expected with the lifting of the export ban on gold. The chief object of the official intention appears, therefore, to be to relax the contraction of the currency caused by a decline in the money rates.

The *Jiji* doubts in its editorial of January 14th whether such artificial means of adjustment can give a rational foundation in stabilizing the present abnormal monetary situation.

The existing limit issue has deen left unchanged for a period of over 25 years since its second extension on March 9th, 1900. Apart from argument about the reasonableness or unreasonableness of the present limit from a purely rational point of view, the actual codition of our conversion system and money market has normalized the excess issue of notes for the past 36 years, except for 5 years of the period, yet it has never produced, practically, uneasiness of money. Especially, the economic expasnion brought about by the World War rather separated the relations between the issue-tax and the money rates, the latter of which has regulated the discount rate of the Bank of Japan, while the former has followed alterations of the Bank of Japan's rates, producing and maintaining a phenomenon quite contrary to the object of limiting the convertible note issues. In fact, the money market has not been automatically regulated by the central bank's interest policy and has been ruled by causes, which are not automatic.

It is contnary to fact to conclude that changes in the rate of imposition accompanying altepations in the issue limit will regnlate the money market. It is essential to contract the excessively expanded currency and to urge the quick return of money to its normal condition, for which the lifting of the export ban on gold is a fundamental means. An attempt to adopt a policy to encourage the expansion of convertible note issues against this fundamental policy would be contradictory and would be the action of a traitor to the platform of the present Ministry, which stands for retrenchment and readjustment of finances and economics and a fall in the prices of commodities.

It is not the True Intention of England: —We have often called the attention of the British nation and its conservative party cabinet to the seriousness of the effect the building of a British Naval base at Singapore may work on the Pacific international relations, says the *Jiji* of January 7th. Everybody would suppose that the objective of the English attempt to create the strong Naval base must be Japan, which is the onlv strong Naval power in the neighbourhood of the British territories in the Pacific. It is to be questioned what has warned England to look upon Japan as her future enemy? The attempt is most evidently a violation of the spirit of the Washington Conference, for although Singapore is geographically beyond the line of that conference, yet it lies in proximity to it. Would it not be an incentive to another useless rivalry of armamet among the powers sooner or later, if it is carried out despite everything? These apprehensions are liable to lead to

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a harmful misunderstanding between Japan and England, which have long been on unequalled good terms with one another. Nothing could be more unfortunate for them.

It cannot be the true intention of the whole British nation to project a big Naval base at Singapore, for there are some political parties in England and some British colonies opposing it. The British people must be well aware of Japan holding no ambition whatever to threaten the British territories; and we cannot see why the conservative party ministry and Australia and New Zealand are so much on the alert against Japan. For England, the wisest and best policy for her national defence would be to keep ever on friendly terms with Japan. The Japanese nation's Anglophilism is so deeply planted that it is almost second nature. Apparently in disregard of this, England projects a great military plan at Singapore with Japan as the objective, far from trusting in the sincerity of the Japanese nation and thereby safeguarding her Pacific territories. This is too uncalculating. England is thus discarding her most faithful friend in the world. We cannot understand the true reason of this thoughtless plan of the British people, who have keen intellects and we are incelined to believe that it does not represent their true intention.

Two Important Questions Behind Universal Suffrage Question:— Two important problems stand behind the universal suffrage question, calling for deliberate consideration in connection with the solution of the latter question. One of them is the woman franchise and the other the political position of the Koreans and the Formosans. Nobody is perhaps ready to answer the question whether Japanese women are generally awakened politically, argued *Tokyo Nichi Nichi* in its editorial of January 7th. Female education and professional women have increased remarkably these ten years, when women have sought an outlet from the home to society with great rapidity. It is still premature to speak of the propriety of franchising Japanese women simly by reason of the above fact, and they may properly or at least at the first be given political rights and obligations to an extent, since their social existence cannot be denied. For this, they may be interested at first in municipal and prefectural administration and then in national administration.

How and when the Koreans and the Formosans are to be franchised is an important question lying at the bottom of our colonial administration, the solution of which must be sought with the utmost care, for a mistake would be the source of serious evil. These territorial subjects advocate the organization of an independent Diet. This is too serious a question to be treated at once, for it involves a radical change in the Constitution. Nor can they be franchised as the Japanese and be represented at the Imperial Diet as yet, considering that their manners and customs are different from the Japanese and they do not yet thoroughly undertand the general political affairs of the Empire. They bear, however, the burdens of the Empire as the Japanese do and cannot, therefore, be left any longer outside the sphere of politics of constitutional autonomy. As an expedient, their right of speaking of their local administration may be recognized more clearly than at present, while as many Government and public officials should be appointed from among them as possible so as to be trained in legislative administration.

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Commodity Prices:—In its ediorialt of January 17th, the *Oriental Economists* predicts a general advance in the prices of eommodities in the near future. Commodities in Japan are now at pretty high levels. Trade abroad shows a marked improvement, and the exchange rates between Japan and foreign countries denote a heavy falling off. This is having the effect of inflating considerably the commedities in the import and export markets. The tendecy is being helped by the rise in special commodities caused by the appreciation of rice.

The depression of trade in Japan has already reached the bottom and the trade conditions are being enlivened by a revival of the export trade and the progress of the resuscitation programme. Trade abroad will go on improving for a time to come. Moreover, the exchange rates have little prospects of an improvement in the near future. These things combine to strengthen our commodities more and more.

Development of Artificial Silk:—Nothing can be more discouraging for Japan's export trade, which now relies upon the raw silk and silk fabric trade as its vital thread of life, than the development of artificial silk. An optimist looks on the increased use of artificial silk as a stimulus of requirements for natural silk. Practically, however, the consumption of comparatively cheap artificial silk in the place of natural silk is growing far greater than any stimulus given to the use of the latter by it, says the *Osaka Asahi* in an editorial of January 11th. In fact, artifieial silk is pressing hard upon the headquarters of natural silk. Not only in substance and touch, but in its defects of easy combustibility and unwashableness, it has been so improved that it has now a very extensive market in the world for use in mixture with natural silk and cotton yarns ann wool.

An enlargement of the scale of manufacture of artificial silk and an improvement in its production have greatly reduced its producing cost, and in Italy, it is put on the market at about 1 yen per lb. As this price is lower than cotton and woollen yarns, artificial silk is a great menace to the general textile industrv, besides being a formidable enemy of natural silk. It is even expected to lead to a great revolution in the textile industry.

It is strange that this important question has been given no thought ie Japan, where the export trade of raw silk is vitally important. When the trade decreased at the end of 1923, not a few people attributed it to the pressure artificial silk brought to bear. With a later revival, however, precautions were relaxed, and the development of artificial silk was even considered by some people as beneficially affecting the raw silk trade. How mistaken this idea is! The Japanese silk industry is nearly at a standstill, the mills being troubled by the question of the high cost of production. In these circumstances, it is not impossible that the world's centre of sericulture will be transferred from Japan to China as it was from France to Italy and then from to Japan.

It is absolutely necessary for Japan to start reseaches regarding artifiicial silk on a large scale for the sake of the preservation of our textile industry, whose products have a yearly export value of about Y. 100,000,000. and also to meet the developments of the new situation. Japan has a nearly nexhaustible supply of vegetable fibres to serve as raw material for a artificial silk, and the prosperity of that industry will be nationally very beneficial. There are a few artificial silk factories in Japan, supplying the demand in part. But they seen to be operated under foreign patents or old imported plants. It will be impossible for us to develop the industry keeping pace with the rapid progress in Europe and America, if things are left as they are; and it is necessary for as to create a semi-official laboratory for artificical silk on a big scale and to thoroughly study its production.

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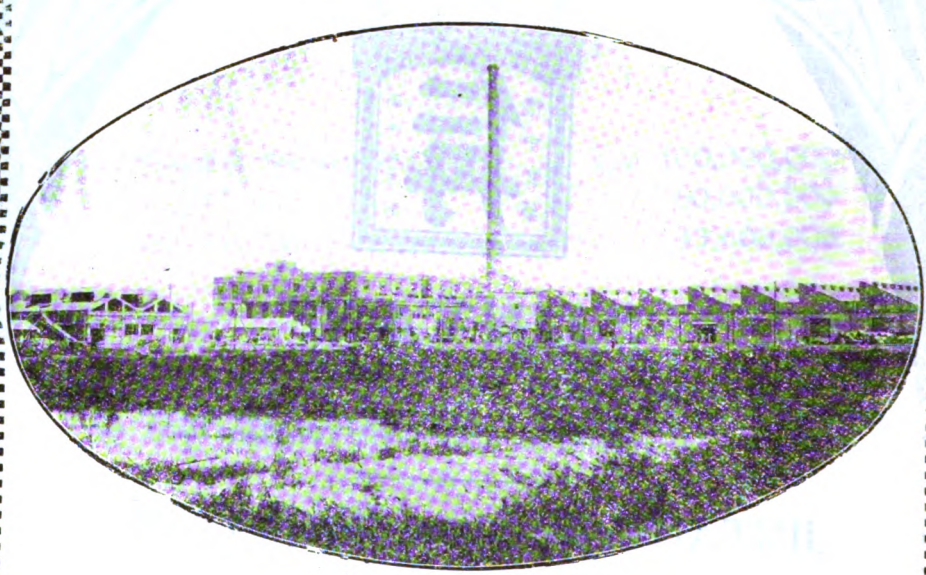

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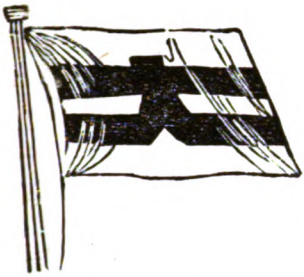

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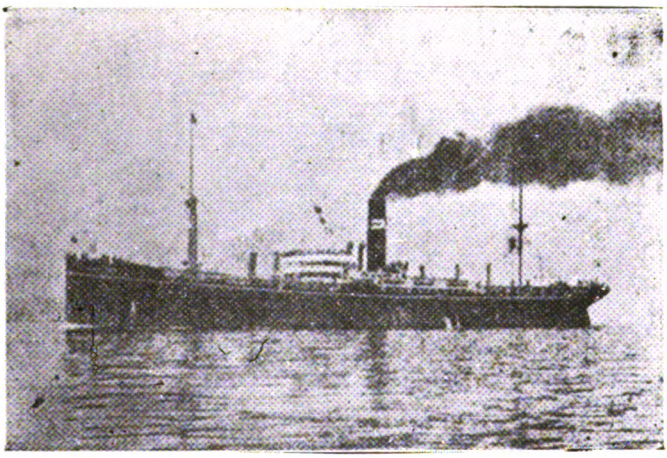

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